

2001 LIVESTOCK, DAIRY AND POULTRY SUMMARY

Highlights of Ohio's livestock statistics include hog inventories falling to an all-time record low. Dairy cow numbers decreased 5,000 head, production per cow dropped over 2 percent and production was down 142 million pounds from last year. Sheep inventory numbers were lower than last year but above record lows set two years ago. Cattle and calf numbers rose slightly over last years record low. Honey production down 10 percent from last year.

Cattle and calf inventories, at 1.25 million, are still less than one percent above last years all-time record low of 1.24 million head. Ohio ranks 27th in the nation for cattle inventory. For the second year in a row, Ohio has 1,000 fewer cattle operations than last year moving from 28,000 operations in 2001 to 27,000 operations in 2002; a 4 percent decline. The total value generated from cattle and calves, however, rose to \$1,063 million; a 7 percent increase from January 2001. Cattle inventory values increased 6 percent from \$800 per head in January 2001 to \$850 per head in January 2002.

Cattle numbers in Ohio remain at near record lows for the third year in a row. Dairy cow inventory lower by 2 percent but milk prices up sharply. Ohio remains the leader in Swiss cheese production.

Milk cow numbers decreased from 265,000 head in January 2001 to 260,000 head in January 2002; a 2 percent decrease. In 2001, total milk production for Ohio dropped 3 percent and milk per cow declined over 2 percent. Milk prices, however, rose from an average of \$12.60/cwt in 2000 to \$15.20/cwt in 2001 which is 21 percent above last year. Wayne county continues to lead the state in dairy cows followed by Homes and Mercer counties , respectively.

Hog inventory decreased from last years inventory of 1,490,000 head in December, 2000, to 1,420,000 head in December, 2001; a 5 percent decrease from the previous year. Hog operations declined 5 percent sliding from 5,200 farms in December, 2000 to 4,900 farms in December, 2001. Hog prices rose an average of \$2.40/cwt from a year earlier. Hog prices rose from \$41.30/cwt in 2000 to \$43.70/cwt in 2001; a 6 percent increase from the previous year. Cash receipts also increased 6 percent from last year. Thirty-one years ago, in 1970, Ohio had twice as many hogs as in 2001. Mercer, Darke and Fulton counties, respectively, continue to be the leading hog counties in Ohio.

December hog inventory dipped to an all time record low. Prices are up slightly but hog operations continue to decline.

Sheep and Lamb inventories declined slightly from 142,000 head in January 2001 to 140,000 head in January 2002; a one percent decrease. In 2002, breeding stock inventories rose 8 percent and the 2001 lamb crop rose 9 percent. In 1867, Ohio had over 8.8 million sheep; 63 times as many as in 2002. Ohio ranks 14th nation wide in sheep numbers, but remains the leader in the Eastern United States. Sheep operations remained constant at 3,600, but value per head dipped slightly from \$140/head in 2001 to \$136/head in 2002. The leading 3 counties for breeding stock numbers are Knox, Harrison and Wayne, respectively.

Sheep and lamb numbers were down slightly in January 2002. Breeding stock and lamb crop are up, but value per head was down slightly.

Total **Laying Hen** numbers increased from 35.8 million head in December 2000 to 38.0 million head in December 2001; 6 percent above last year. Ohio ranks number 2 in the U.S. for laying hens and egg production. Total egg production in 2001 declined 3 percent to 7.9 billion eggs but Ohio still supplies 9.2 percent of the nations eggs. **Turkey** numbers in Ohio increased from 4.4 million birds in 2000 to 4.8 million birds in 2001; a 9 percent increase from last year.

Ohio ranks second in total egg production, but still supplies 9.2 percent of the nations egg supply. While total laying hen numbers have increased, turkey numbers have declined.

Bee colonies decreased slightly in 2001, but honey production increased 11 percent. Average prices for honey in Ohio increased 6 cents per pound. Honey stocks decreased 14 percent, but yields increased from 65 pounds per colony in 2000 to 81 pounds per colony in 2001.

Honey production generated over one million dollars for beekeepers around the state.